

Application No.: 10/812,156

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Docket No.: 606952000420

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph 0007 at page 3 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0007] The insertion of various metals into porphyrin rings, ~~including the insertion of tin into mesoporphyrin-IX,~~ has been described by Fischer and Neumann (Ann. Chem. (1932), 494, 225). The reaction for the insertion of tin is performed in an acid, typically acetic acid, and further typically under reflux, using Sn (II) in the presence of an oxidant. A modified process is also described by Fuhrhop and Smith, as reported in "Porphyrins and Metalloporphyrins" p. 757, ~~Elsevier~~ Elsevier, Amsterdam, 1975, to include sodium acetate, which buffers the solution and enhances deprotonation of the porphyrin. In most cases, the metal mesoporphyrin halide product crystallizes directly from the reaction mixture on cooling. Such crystallization may be enhanced by the addition of water or methanol.

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